

Coronavirus upends daily life



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN
Kelly Hieronymus drove three hours to Northwest from Sedalia, Missouri, March 18 to pack most of her daughter's belongings into her car. Hieronymus said she expects Northwest to suspend in-person classes for the rest of the semester.

Campus residents deal with closure

ANDREW WEGLEY
Managing Editor | @andrewwegley

There were 15 cars in the main parking lot tucked behind Northwest's Hudson-Perrin Residence Halls, which opened in 2007 and have housed roughly a third of the University's freshmen each year since, but sat mostly empty March 14.

The multi-million dollar buildings, the subject of a 2012 lawsuit, were built to house more than 500 students. But as junior residential assistant Keatley Cotter made her third and final rounds March 14 through Hudson-Perrin and Roberta halls, most rooms in the three

dorms were vacant and the parking lot sat near empty as the spread of the novel coronavirus forced Northwest to shift classes to on-line-only for

The continued spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, which first appeared in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, has sparked a swift and evolving response from Northwest officials, one that's volatility has left residential assistants working break staff shifts across campus without many residents to assist as the University has canceled in-person classes for the rest of the semester and encouraged students to stay home in its latest attempt to prevent the spread of the disease.

"Considering the fact that we opened today and it's still an empty parking lot," Cotter said March 14, motioning toward a window in Perrin Hall that looked over the east parking lot behind Hudson-Perrin. "I assume this is basically what it's gonna look like. And honestly, most (cars belong to) staff and a few residents."

After first suspending in-person and blended courses for a week, the University changed course. Along with the shift to online-only course-

NORTHWEST MOVES ALL CLASSES ONLINE

After first suspending in-person classes for a week and shifting classes online in a temporary fashion, Northwest will move all classes online for the rest of the semester as the spread of COVID-19 continues across the United States, the University announced in an email March 18.

The decision came hours after Missouri Western announced the suspension of its in-person classes for the remainder of the spring and days after the University of Missouri system did the same for all four of its campuses statewide.

The move was made "out of

an abundance of caution," the email said, in an effort to help slow the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, which first appeared in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. The campus will remain open in "limited operation."

In-person and blended classes, which had been suspended entirely for one week starting March 16, will resume online March 23, according to the email.

The University will provide further information to students living in Northwest residence halls in regards to move-out and refund processes for housing and meal plans via email, the University announced.

work for all classes, Northwest's latest response includes the cancellation of non-essential University-supported travel, the cancellation of student organization activities, meetings and events and limitations on hours of operation of each campus dining outpost.

From Cotter's view, as one of two residential assistants still oc-

cupying Hudson-Perrin at the tail end of Northwest's spring break and ahead of the beginning of the break's extension, Northwest's latest round of messaging appears to be getting through to residents.

SEE RES HALLS | A3

City releases virus safety guidelines

KENDRICK CALFEE
Community News Editor | @KoalaCalfree

The city of Maryville has decided to implement several recommendations for citizens regarding the monitoring of COVID-19, a pandemic that's effects are now touching small rural communities during a wavering national economy. Of these recommendations, the most heavily discussed were the advice of limiting gatherings to 10 people or less wherever possible and the impact provisions may have on local businesses.

Following a March 18 meeting where the city council and staff discussed Center for Disease Control and local health center guidelines, the city council plans to draft a formal resolution, which would provide overall locality guidelines for businesses and citizens, March 19.

The council also discussed holding future city council meetings by invitation-only, and live streaming on a platform such as Facebook Live.

Mayor Rachael Martin suggested the formal resolution following comments from Tom Patterson, ad-

ministrator of the Nodaway County Health Center, and Lily White, director of the Greater Maryville Chamber of Commerce.

Patterson said the response to the outbreak is being left up to local governments in Missouri, with limited formal guidance from the governor or other health professionals.

"The situation is unique," Patterson said. "It's different here than in St. Louis, for example... it wouldn't be fair from a state perspective to hand something down that is applicable to St. Louis that you would have to do here."

Patterson said that as of March 18, there are no local ordinances or rules passed in the region strictly adhering to guidelines handed down by the governor or CDC.

"Currently we are sticking with that guidance, that we would strongly encourage people to postpone or restrict gatherings of 10 or more," Patterson said.

As of now, in conjunction with the Nodaway County Health Center, the city of Maryville is not pushing for a mandate with the formal resolution guidelines, but Patterson said it has the possibility to change.

"A lot of (CDC recommendations) is based on community spread of the disease, so you'll see areas of the countries that are mandating that," Patterson said.

The council and staff spent 24 minutes out of the hour-long meeting discussing the Nodaway County Senior Center and how it would be affected if the limit of 10 people gathering at a time was adhered.

Councilman Benjamin Lipiec said he saw 35 to 40 vehicles parked outside of the Senior Center when he made his way to the 12 p.m. meeting March 18. Concerned for those most at risk for contraction of the coronavirus, the elderly population, the council discussed ways to help the Senior Center if it were to temporarily limit in-person operations.

The council discussed its approach to programs like Meals on Wheels, which necessitate community volunteers who are often at-risk contractors of coronavirus, and determined the city may have resources to help seniors get their meals delivered to them.

Martin said implementing the recommendations through the res-

olution would provide a way for citizens to hold one another accountable.

"I'm more afraid of regret than I am of unnecessary precaution," Martin said. "That's how we have to think when we are writing (the resolution)."

White discussed what the GMCC is doing to help local businesses in the recent state of uncertainty. Since several restaurants have made the transition for to-go orders only, some small businesses have begun asking for guidance as well.

White said the chamber has been sending out emails to business owners with information on a brand new web page titled "Maryville Strong", providing local business operation updates, remote working tools for employees and information about online communication tools that are easy to use.

"We have seen some businesses making their own decision to close their doors for their staff," White said.

SEE CITY COUNCIL | A3

THE RESPONSE TIMELINE FOR SAFETY MEASURES IN SLOWING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

Maryville to host additional special city council meeting
3/19/20 | 1:00 p.m.

Northwest moves to online classes for remaining semester
3/18/20 | 5:20 p.m.



Maryville holds special city council meeting
3/18/20 | 12:00 p.m.



MIAA cancels spring sports
3/17/20 | 10:59 a.m.

The White House urges to avoid gatherings of 10 or more people
3/16/20 | 6:40 p.m.

Maryville School District closed through April 3
3/16/20 | 1:09 p.m.



CDC recommends cancelling events of 50 or more people
3/15/20 | 8:06 p.m.

Northwest moves classes online through April 6
3/13/20 | 5:57 p.m.

MIAA suspends all athletic practices and events
3/12/20 | 5:08 p.m.



NCAA Division II Central Regional Tournament canceled
3/12/20 | 3:16 p.m.

Jasinski confirms eight students are still abroad
3/12/20 | 10:02 a.m.

NCAA Division II Central Regional Tournament closed to public
3/12/20 | 9:06 a.m.

Northwest postpones in-person classes until March 23
3/11/20 | 9:16 p.m.



World Health Organization declares COVID-19 a pandemic
3/11/20 | 11:15 a.m.

First confirmed positive case of COVID-19 hits the U.S.
1/20/20

Northwest Missouri's oldest and largest independently-owned and operated bank.



NODAWAY VALLEY BANK

Maryville
660-562-3232

Mound City
660-442-3131

Savannah
816-324-3158

St. Joseph
816-364-5678

Member FDIC

School closure leaves array of questions

KENDRICK CALFEE
Community News Editor | @KoalaCalf

Children and teens of Maryville were left with more questions than answers when all Nodaway County school districts announced closure through April 3, forcing the cancellation of activities, including regularly-scheduled sports, and further widening the umbrella of uncertainty for families across the county.

Local health officials met with members of several school boards and district superintendents across Nodaway County March 16 to alleviate concerns in the brunt of the novel coronavirus pandemic. After lengthy discussion, the solution came in the form of closure for all schools in the county for at least two weeks, forcing the cancellation of several school activities and events, including conference play in some sports.

Maryville School District Superintendent Becky Albrecht said the school has been aware of the growing issue since January and came to the decision to close after considering the health and safety of students.

“As a school district, top priority is safety of our students,” Albrecht said. “So far the best way to ensure that is to be out until April 3, and back in session on the follow-



Maryville High School had no classes March 16 as administrators discussed their plan for moving forward with the COVID-19 Situation.

ing Monday. Time will tell if that is possible or not.”

Albrecht hosted a meeting at Maryville High School with several superintendents from schools across northwest Missouri March 16 to discuss options and heed advice from the Center for Disease Control. After weighing options, temporary closure was deemed the best thing the district could do.

Following the announcement of closure, district leaders met and thought of ways the school could provide services for students during the shutdown.

A page was created on the Maryville High School website, being updated with the latest information on the district’s approach to the coronavirus. According to the site, there are staff members work-

ing in the office during the closure who can be contacted with questions by phone or email.

According to a March 18 email release from Albrecht, the Maryville school district will provide a free meal service to all enrolled students beginning March 23 for the duration of the coronavirus shutdown. Students can take two free meals a day from dis-

trict representatives by parking in front of Eugene Field Elementary School between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Albrecht also tweeted March 18 about online educational resources the Student Services Coordinator Brian Lynn put on the website for students to be able to access during the shutdown.

“Student Services Coordinator Mr Lynn has compiled some educational resources that parents might find helpful,” Albrecht said in a tweet. “There’s also nothing wrong with keeping it simple & just encouraging reading & exercise during this short break.”

But even with the administration acting quickly to provide these solutions, some frequently asked questions don’t have definitive answers since the situation is being monitored.

Maryville High School junior Gwynn Smail said her greatest concern is that she will have to continue classes online, since some students at the high school may not have internet access at home.

“The public library is now closed... so they can’t even go there for free internet,” Smail said.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

Economic impact of pandemic felt at Maryville hotels

JON WALKER
Sports Editor | @ByJonWalker

Prior to 2020, Maryville experienced three weekends that served as an economic boost to the community. Those are, namely, Family Weekend, Homecoming Weekend and the weekends that Northwest men’s basketball has been good enough for the city to be the host site for the Division II Central Region Tournament for all three of those years.

The Bearcats were crowned the No. 1 seed in the Central Region again in 2020, which primed Maryville to again be the host site. With the cancellation of the tournament March 14-17 at Bear-

cat Arena in an attempt to reduce the spread of COVID-19, five hotels in the city lost out on roughly \$39,000 of revenue.

The five hotels are Holiday Inn Express and Suites, Cobblestone Inn and Suites, Bearcat Inn and Suites, America’s Best Value Inn and Suites and Country Heart Inn.

The figures for the compilation of the five hotels were comprised of how many rooms were booked from March 13-15, how many of those were canceled in correlation with the tournament and the average price per room in each establishment, respectively.

“The cancellation of the Cen-

tral Region Tournament certainly has a negative impact on the local economy; however the city of Maryville stands fully behind the actions of the NCAA and Northwest that are designed to keep their students and employees safe,” Maryville’s City Manager Greg McDanel said in an email. “COVID-19 requires an unprecedented national and local response, regardless of the economic impact. We will do our best to continue supporting the local economy during this time while adhering to recommendations from the CDC.”

For businesses in Maryville, the caution jeopardizes hours of

operation, profit margins and, in extreme instances, the ability to keep the doors open. The latest adaptation for the city came in the form of Hy-Vee, which announced March 17 that store hours are changing from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., effective March 19.

The biggest missed revenue opportunity came via Holiday Inn Express and Suites, which was left without approximately \$11,960. The hotel has 59 rooms in the building, all of which were booked for the weekend, an employee said. Out of the 177 rooms that were supposed to be paid for over the three days, 115 of those ended up being canceled at a rate

of \$104 per night.

The same employee noted that the cancellations have been rather rough for the business, leaving employees with shortened hours.

It’s something that the employee said shouldn’t affect the company too much in the oncoming weeks. They noted that the hotel has been nearly full for the past several months due to the wind farm construction. For other businesses that aren’t being utilized by that industry, it could mean otherwise.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM



NORTHWEST

Missouri State University

Northwest Online Programs

Why Northwest Missouri State University

- 100% Online
- 100% of classes taught by professionals, not graduate assistants
- 20 years of experience in online learning and teaching
- Variety of start dates depending on the degree
- Standard or expedited course plans available



Northwest Online General Information

nwonline@nwmissouri.edu
nwmissouri.edu/online
660.562.1532

Established in 1999, Northwest Online is an extension of Northwest Missouri State University and offers ten master-level degrees, three bachelor-level degrees and one certificate program. All Classes are designed by full-time faculty.

RES HALLS

CONTINUED FROM A1

In her evening rounds March 14, a three-building gantlet that stretched up and down close to a dozen flights of stairs for more than 25 minutes, Cotter encountered three people — the other residential assistant in Hudson-Perrin with two of her friends. And throughout the day, the first of which Northwest had reopened its residence halls, Cotter came across only a handful of her residents on the second floor of Perrin, all of whom were back to collect books and medicine and other things they’d left behind a week ago, before heading back to the desolate parking lot, before heading back home.

One resident Cotter ran into, a freshman from Colorado, flew into Missouri on the morning of March 14 to collect her books and flew back the same afternoon, perhaps depicting the impact the spread of COVID-19 has had on both the nation’s travel economy and education system, on both Northwest and normalcy. The resident’s one-way airline ticket, Cotter said, was \$33.

Things were slightly different March 16, the Monday after University residence halls reopened their doors to students, Cotter said. More residents had arrived with the intent to stay, some through the week and some through the end of the semester, despite Northwest’s shift online.

With on-ground classes and most aspects of campus life on hold in Maryville, Northwest Residential and Auxiliary Services isn’t requiring residential assistants like Cotter to return to work. Instead, the residential staff, Cotter said, is handling the pandemic-extended break how they would any other break, doing so on a volunteer basis, working shifts that cover multiple buildings, all of which remain mostly unpopulated.

For the most part, though, the residential assistants who have stuck around through break or returned as they planned to afterward have found themselves “playing it by ear,” Cotter said. Their roles have shifted to a more logistical focus, she said, in the midst of an outbreak that has brought with it uncharted territory.

“I mean, this isn’t something we were necessarily trained on in

the summer,” Cotter said. “Like, ‘What happens if a pandemic takes over the University?’ Like, that didn’t happen.”

The realities of the pandemic’s effects on campus are different for international students like freshman Felipe Tala, a native of Argentina living in Dieterich Hall. Since returning to campus March 15, Tala said he’d felt isolated. He said he thought there were close to 20 residents in the entire high-rise. He said he and other international students, similar to the University’s staff of residential assistants, are playing it by ear.

The number of unknowns that hang over the future of in-person classes come with an increased degree of difficulty for students like Tala, studying more than 5,000 miles away from home. He would prefer to go home and finish his classes online, he said before the University announced its decision to move online for the rest of the semester March 18. Tala said he’s lucky to have friends to hangout with in the meantime, but fears of COVID-19 have left him unsure if he should even do that.

“I need to socialize and be with people,” Tala said. “So, yeah, it’s been terrible.”

In response to the unforeseen pandemic, Residential and Auxiliary Services is working alongside Facility Services, Aramark — Northwest’s campus dining food service provider — and scores of student employees to prepare students who have returned to campus.

Rose Viau, the assistant vice president of Residential and Auxiliary Services, said in a phone interview March 12 the department has prioritized communication with residential assistants, while trying to gauge how many students will return, sending an email survey out to on-campus residents March 12 inquiring about students’ travel plans.

But since the survey, which around 450 students responded to as of 2:30 p.m. March 12, Viau said, was dispatched before Northwest decided to move to online-only course work from March 23-April 6. The shift in the University’s messaging, Viau said in a follow-up email March 14, left the original survey’s results ineffective.

“Given the rapid changes, we are now encouraging students to



MADI GLASS | NW MISSOURIAN

Freshman resident Brooklyn Nordhues packs the majority of her belongings to prepare to move home in the midst of Northwest pushing back in-person classes until April 6.

stay home instead of return unless it is essential such as having a job or nowhere else to live,” Viau said in the email. “So, we are no longer looking at those numbers.”

Within residence halls across campus, residential assistants have taped red signs to dorm room doors that read “NOT OCCUPIED,” asking incoming residents to flip the signs over, to a side that reads “OCCUPIED,” if and when they return to their rooms. Cotter said March 16 residential assistants only have a vague idea of which residents have returned in each dorm hall.

Viau clarified that Residential and Auxiliary Services likely planned to dispatch another survey over the weekend of March 14-15 in an effort to find an accurate tally of the number of students on campus, a figure that would be useful for Aramark and Campus Dining in preparing food for a mostly empty campus.

Viau said Aramark, in accordance with the University, is implementing procedural changes within the J.W. Jones Student Union in an effort to reduce the risk of potential virus spread. The changes in-

clude increased cleaning and sanitation efforts, the removal of communal ketchup dispensers in favor of individual packets and the elimination of self-serving stations at the Union.

Starting March 15, Campus Dining rolled out adjusted operation hours for the extended break for each of its dining options. The updated hours left Zen, Starbucks and Mooyah closed for the duration of the extended break, while limiting Chick-fil-A’s hours of operation to 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturdays. Bearcat Commons will be opened in two-hour intervals three times a day and will not offer late-night hours for the duration of the extension.

The changes, meant to help Campus Dining maintain efficient operation while serving fewer students, have impacted those students left on campus, including those like Tala, those without another option. Tala woke up late and missed breakfast hours March 16. Two weeks ago, it wouldn’t have been a problem. Now, in the wake of the University’s response to the spreading virus, it left Tala hungry.

“The food is just limited,” Tala

said. “I don’t have a fridge, so it’s not like I can take whatever I want to my room; I just can eat things that I don’t have to leave in the fridge. So (my) diet has been limited.”

On its first day of the new operating hours, which started at 4 p.m. March 15, Bearcat Commons and its near-dozen employees served less than five residents in its first 30 minutes of operation. The Union, for the most part, sat as resident-starved as Hudson-Perrin did throughout Cotter’s rounds March 14.

Once self-serving stations were operated instead by employees. Three separate sanitizing stations greeted residents before they entered the dining area. Signs posted near the fountain drink station requested diners use a new cup each time they fill up. Employees wiped down tables that already appeared to be clean. COVID-19 made its presence felt at Northwest before ever arriving in Nodaway County.

“Now, of course, I don’t want it to happen at all,” Viau said, referencing the disease’s potential spread onto Northwest’s campus. “That would be easier for all of us.”

CITY COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM A1

“Most of the businesses that are doing that right now have the ability to make most of their sales online.”

White said the GMCC won’t be

able to track economic injury for some time because of lack of data early in the process, but that there staff who will check into that impact and how to help businesses who incur losses.

“From the federal level we are expecting — numbers that were

given on Monday — about a 10% economic change,” White said. “In conference calls I have been in, they haven’t addressed what it should look like state-wise.”

Assistant City Manager Ryan Heiland discussed what the city has already done in response to the

coronavirus outbreak. Measures already taken include the closure of the Community Center, Maryville R-II and other county school district closures and Mozingo Lake Recreation Park cancelling events with implementation of restricting groups beyond 10 people.

Considering what has already been done to combat the pandemic, the city council will draft a formal resolution and focus discussion around proclamation of emergency at its March 19 special meeting.

Worship in Maryville

Hub Bible Church

101 E. 4th (Corner of 4th and Main)

We Will Be Your Church Away From Home

Brand New Church
Sundays: 1:30pm For Worship (101 E. 4th, Maryville, MO)
All Northwest Students Are Welcome

pastorjimpearce@gmail.com

maryvillehub.com

Free Counseling By Appointment If You Have Any Need At All
Call Pastor Jim At (660) 853-8759

First Baptist Church

Join Us On Sundays:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:45 a.m. Worship Service


6:30 p.m. Evening Bible Study

Dale Baker, Pastor

121 E. Jenkins St. Maryville, MO 64468

The monks of Conception Abbey invite you to join them for prayer, just 20 miles east of Maryville. People of all faiths are always welcome.

For a complete listing of our daily prayer schedule, visit www.conceptionabbey.org/guests.

CONCEPTION

Living the Benedictine Tradition

Countryside Christian Church

SHOW PEOPLE JESUS

Sunday Mornings 10AM

Coffee & Donuts at 9:30AM

24899 Icon Rd, Maryville, MO 64468
(660) 582-8872

SUNDAYS 9 AND 10:30

1122 S. MAIN STREET
THEBRIDGEMARYVILLE.COM

THE BRIDGE

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Wesley Student Center

Midweek Worship

9:00pm Wednesday Nights

Free dinner 6pm Thursday followed by Bible Study

All Are Welcome!

Chris Komorech

Campus Minister

549 W. 4 th (582-2211)

(wesley@nwmissouri.edu)

www.northwestwesley.com

Facebook Page at Northwest Wesley Student Center



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

Where Life Meets Love

Sundays:

8 a.m. First Service

9 a.m. Discipleship Classes

10:15 a.m. Second Service

6 p.m. ACT Small Group

201 West Third, Maryville

660.582.4101

Rev. Craig Kirby-Grove

Campus contact: Deena Poynter

660.541.1336

www.fccmaryvillemo.com

fccmaryvillemo@gmail.com



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Everyone Is Welcome Here - No Exceptions



WWW.MARYVILLEFUMC.ORG EMAIL: STEPH@MARYVILLEFUMC.ORG
YOUTUBE: MARYVILLE FUMC

Join us for worship @ 9am or 11am Sundays!

660-582-4821
CORNERS OF 1ST & MAIN, MARYVILLE, MO

St. Gregory's Catholic Church

333 South Davis Street
Maryville, MO 64468

Mass times:

Saturday- 5:00 p.m. (Reconciliation 4:15)

Sunday- 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

www.stgregorysmaryville.org

ADVERTISE YOUR CHURCH

402.217.2277

S535809@nwmissouri.edu

KEEP YOUR FOCUS 20/20!

SUMMER SESSIONS 2020

Stay on track to graduate by taking summer courses!

- 6-, 8- or 12-week sessions
- Courses available on both Warrensburg and Lee's Summit campuses
- Numerous online courses to choose from

Enrollment begins Monday, March 23

ucmo.edu/summer



WARRENSBURG | LEE'S SUMMIT | ONLINE



NORTHWEST STUDENT MEDIA
RELIVE
TOWER YEARBOOK

Shells Service

24 Hour: Towing • Lockouts • Jumpstarts
The only one stop shop for all your automotive needs.

Tires		Brakes
Batteries		Suspension
Tune-Ups		Oil Changes
Alternatives		Transmissions
Engines		Air Conditioning

985 S. Main Maryville
Day 660-582-4711 Serving Maryville since 1958 Night 660-582-1692



KOOL KAT'S REOPENING!

(660) 541-0446 Spring / Summer / Fall

Trailer Only
Book the Trailer for ALL your special events!
Offer 2 options:
Unlimited shaved ice or shaved ice & ice cream for one low price each per hour!

Come and Enjoy what We started with!
Ice cream & Shaved ice

Remember to bring your Bearcat Buddy Landyard for Half Price!

New Hours
TUE - SUN: 2PM - 10PM



APPLY FOR SUMMER CLASSES AT STLCC

Apply and secure your spot today at St. Louis Community College. STLCC offers a wide variety of CORE 42 classes that are guaranteed to transfer to all public Missouri colleges and universities. You can take classes online or at one of the six locations.

Session I begins on May 19 (3 and 11-weeks classes) and Session II begins on June 8 (6 and 8-week classes). Complete our free online application today!

STLCC.EDU/SUMMER

 St. Louis Community College

Tips from a health official on COVID-19

TABITHA FRANK
Contributing Columnist



Novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, is a virus that generally has mild effects in most people. However, the virus can cause severe illness in the elderly and those with chronic medical conditions.

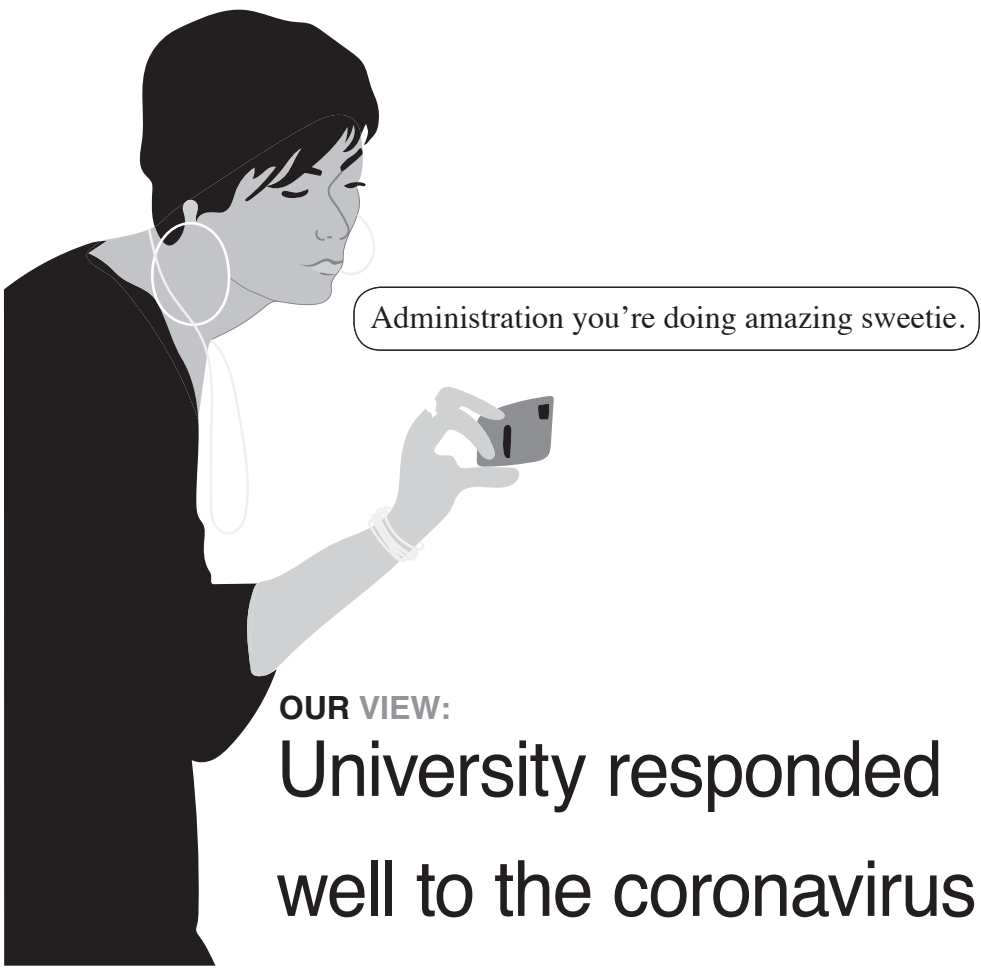
COVID-19 is thought to be spread by coughs and sneezes of an infected person to a noninfected person. However, the virus can also be transmitted by close personal contact or contact with a surface that has been contaminated with the virus, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.

Symptoms of COVID-19 typically include fever, cough and difficulty breathing. The symptoms appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

Everyday precautions are essential to preventing COVID-19. These measures include proper handwashing, avoiding touching your face and covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve. Prevention also includes social distancing and staying home when sick.

Individuals who think they are sick with COVID-19 symptoms should contact their health care provider by phone.

As of March 17, there were 15 positive cases in Missouri; none of those cases are in Nodaway County. Nodaway County Health Department continues to monitor the situation and provide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance to community partners and the public. More information is available at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services has a 24-hour hotline for anyone with questions about COVID-19: 877-435-8411.



EMILY NOYES | NW MISSOURIAN

OUR VIEW: University responded well to the coronavirus

It seemed that everything was normal, until all of a sudden, it wasn't. Northwest students were midway through a chilly spring break, hopefully enjoying a rest from classes, when the whole world seemed to shift. March 11, COVID-19 went from a punchline for many on Twitter to shutting down sports, spreading fear and causing a toilet paper shortage for some reason.

Northwest, to its credit, handled the situation with clarity, focus and care, which seemed to be in short supply on that day.

The World Health Organization officially declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic March 11, and more dominoes continued to fall as NBA player Rudy Gobert tested positive for the virus, which shut down the NBA season, the NCAA tournament was canceled, and all large gatherings were postponed or outright canceled. This left universities in a difficult spot, and they had to act fast because questions of how the semester would proceed would mount up fast.

Northwest responded with an email from President John Jasinski postponing in-person classes until March 23, effectively giving the University more time to monitor the outbreak. This gave students immediate notice about how the next week was going to look and allowed them ample time to make plans for classes being moved online.

The coronavirus outbreak has been a constantly evolving issue since it hit the U.S., meaning that decisions as to how to proceed need to be made incrementally as new information becomes available.

As it became clear that social distancing was the next step, the University wasted lit-

tle time in announcing the postponement of in-person classes March 16 and that classes will be online-only beginning March 23 and will stay in that format for at least two weeks.

The Trump administration did not show the same initiative, as President Donald Trump decided to play the blame game with someone who hasn't been in office for more than three years. The Trump administration also claimed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had plenty of tests, "no testing kit shortage, nor has there ever been," Alex Azar, the secretary of health and human services said, and Trump later condemned the CDC for not having enough kits in a tweet. The leader of the free world, ladies and gentlemen.

Luckily for Northwest students, University leadership has not been constantly placing its foot in its mouth. The University has been frequently updating professors and students of the situation and has shown that keeping the pandemic from Northwest is at the forefront of its agenda.

Northwest has also encouraged faculty to get in touch with students and communicate how classes will move forward the rest of the semester. This can greatly decrease anxiety for both students and professors over how to proceed for the next few months.

Going from a campus that relies mostly on in-person classes to one that is strictly online will not be easy. There will be mishaps and mistakes, and some people will be upset, but Northwest has done an admirable job in handling this crisis so far and for that all involved deserve credit.

YOUR VIEW: How do you feel about the University's response to the coronavirus?



"I kind of knew it was going to happen eventually. With every other university going the way it is, it was only a matter of time before we ended up the same way. You can see it both ways; it's a good thing yet a bad thing. It's protecting us, but at the same time it's also affecting kind of our education and how we learn, 'cause a lot of people, they don't learn well online, they learn better in-person face-to-face contact. But, I mean, we're humans; we learn to adapt and we'll overcome it." "works for me."

-Colby Holtman | Freshman
Mass Media: Broadcasting and Production



"We were kind of shocked. We were in Florida for Alternative Spring Break, so, like, we didn't really know how that was like going to affect us being there, but we got back fine. I'm hoping they don't go online for the rest of the semester; that's going to make things really difficult for my jobs and my classes and stuff, but I also think it's good to like not get people sick obviously."

-Delaney Small | Senior
Biomedical Sciences

Selfishness on display during pandemic

ANDREW WEGLEY
Managing Editor
@andrewwegley



The video, first tweeted out by WFLA News in Tampa Bay, has been viewed more than 18 million times on Twitter alone since it made its way to the website at 1:24 p.m. March 16. And it'll probably be referenced in historical texts years from now when we look back and wonder why the U.S. was hit so hard by COVID-19.

"Clearwater Beach, Florida, is PACKED today despite 'social distancing' recommendations," the tweet reads, coupled with a link to a news story and aerial footage of thousands of visitors to Clearwater Beach, sunbathing and swimming and lounging and drinking without concern for the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, which first ap-

peared in Wuhan, China, in December 2019."

The tweet is just one example among countless depicting the irresponsibility of a country that may have reached an all-time level of irresponsibility, mostly perpetuated by spring breakers who seem to think the virus, which has killed more than 7,500 people worldwide and resulted in the complete shutdown of Italy, can't be spread on Florida beaches.

It's true that the coronavirus affects young people at vastly different rates than it does old, resulting in a fatality rate of 0.2% for 20-to-29 year-olds and 14.8% for anyone older than 80. And it's true that a lot of spring break trips were planned and paid for months in advance. But the actions of America's youth this week, still crowding bars and beaches throughout the U.S., have reached a peak degree of selfishness as the virus is still finding its foothold.

As the Center for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention recommended the canceling of gatherings of more than 50 people and as President Donald Trump — who downplayed the virus for more than a month — warned the public to avoid groups larger than 10, hoards of mostly young people went about life like it was business as usual over the weekend and into St. Patrick's Day, ignoring or indifferent to the virus's continued spread across all 50 states, which has left more than 100 people dead in America, according to the Washington Post.

Those recommendations, among others set forth by the CDC, apply as stringently to young people as they do to old people, New York Times science and health reporter Donald McNeil Jr. said on an episode of "The Daily" March 13, unless those young people are "totally selfish."

"Do you know anybody and love anybody who's older and might be frail?" McNeil said. "You don't want your last memory of that

person being that you gave them the virus that killed them."

Instead of taking the growing pandemic seriously, it seems, a number of college-aged students have continued on with daily life, unconcerned how their actions may affect themselves, or worse, someone else.

They've largely ignored the president's warning and the latest available data. They've ignored the fact that several celebrities — Idris Elba, Donovan Mitchell, Kevin Durant — have contracted and carried COVID-19 without ever showing symptoms. And they've largely ignored the real consequence to their actions, the scope of which won't be known for weeks, if not months.

This is going to get worse before it gets better. Experts say the worst of the pandemic has yet to take hold of the U.S., with the virus further amplified and spread by our own inaction. "Social distancing was optional," but because we didn't do it, we'll soon be out of options.



"People like STEM majors are going to be really affected by this because a lot of their classes are labs and hands-on work. Whereas like for my major, I'm IDM, so a lot of my stuff is online anyways, but yeah, it came at a weird time, like right in the middle of spring break so we were getting emails as we were working, and we had to talk to our group like, 'Hey, this is going on. This is the University's responsibility; they'll get back to us in a day or two, so it was a lot of just waiting.'"

-Whitney Henry | Senior
Interactive Digital Media: New Media

EDITORIAL STAFF

Rachel Adamson	Editor in Chief
Andrew Wegley	Managing Editor
Abbey Hugo	Copy Editor
Kendrick Calfee	Community News Editor
Samantha Collison	Campus News Editor
Jon Walker	Sports Editor
Emily Noyes	Design Editor
Nathan English	Opinion Editor
Hailey Howard	Photo Editor
Chris Young	Cartoonist

CONTACT US

Newsroom:	(660) 562-1224
Advertising:	(660) 562-1635
Circulation:	(660) 562-1528
Fax:	(660) 562-1521

NEWS STAFF

Andrew Bradbury	Designer
Makayla Polak	Designer
Madeline Mapes	News Reporter
Sara Robke	A&E Reporter
Madi Glass	Photographer
Martina Pascuzzo	Photographer
Dakota Weaver	Photographer
Calvin Silvers	Sports Reporter
Roman Metcalf	Sports Reporter
Corbin Smith	Sports Reporter

NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MARYVILLE, MISSOURI | NWMISSOURIANS.COM

An Independent Student Newspaper
since 1914.

800 University Drive, Wells Hall
Maryville, MO, 64468

CORRECTIONS POLICY

If you believe information within our publication is incorrect, please email us at northwestmissourian@gmail.com, call our newsroom (660) 562-1224, or leave us a comment on www.nwmissourianews.com.

Your first copy of the Northwest Missourian is free. Additional copies cost 25¢ each.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We publish letters from readers for free. All letters become the property of the Northwest Missourian, which reserves the right to edit them. Letters should include your name, address and telephone number. Letters should be between 150 and 300 words and sent to r.adamson@nwmissourian.com.

DIRECTORS

Stevie Chappell	Student Publications Director
Leslie Murphy	General Manager/Ad Director

AD STAFF

Allison Binder	Sales Manager
Cora Stout	Ad Design Manager
Andrew Bradbury	Advertising Designer
Kayla McArtor	Advertising Designer
Jerilynn Hoover	Advertising Designer
Katie Hall	Account Executive
Grace Stephens	Account Executive
Faith Offner	Account Executive
Brooke Vogelsmeier	Account Executive
Bridget Besse	Distribution
Haylee Backues	Distribution

SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

					8	3		5
3			5		2	1		9
5		4						
4			1	9	3	8		7
		8	7	5				
					4		5	3
			2	4	7			
					9		7	1
		6						4

HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative

ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
You may be facing the consequences of a little overindulgence this week, Aries. It may take a bit for you to get back on track. Use every opportunity to rest up.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, if you are moving from one job to another, you may have to put your social life on hold for a bit until all components of this transition are working smoothly.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, obligations at work or at home are building up and you may be experiencing extra stress. The key to feeling better is to take some of the responsibilities off of your plate.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, a lack of communication between you and a close friend or relative may have you wondering if this person is okay. Just be persistent with your inquiries.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, caution is called for any time a financial presentation is made that affects your finances. Properly vet all potential investments and anyone guiding you in this process.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you may be putting your best self forward, but unless you get others to take notice, you won’t be able to make an impact. Enlist others to help.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, your ingenuity and imagination have been wavering lately. Thankfully, that doesn’t mean you won’t be able to get things working again. Stay the course.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Financial matters come to the forefront this week, Scorpio. You may have depleted your reserves a bit faster than expected. It’s probably time to curtail your spending.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, you may need to say something to a loved one that shows how much you support this special purpose. Give careful consideration to what you want to say.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Use this week as an opportunity to catch up on some rest, Capricorn. Your schedule has been jam-packed for some time now, and your energy stores are depleted.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, you may be stuck in the middle of a situation with two people you care about. Be an impartial listener to both instead of taking sides. Offer advice if it’s sought.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, you may be hit with a bit of melancholy this week, but it quickly subsides when you touch base with someone whose energy is contagious.

DEAR READERS,

Due to Northwest’s decision to suspend on-campus classes for the remaining of the semester, **The Northwest Missourian will no longer print this semester.**

We will provide updates, as needed, with any additional changes to our publishing schedule.

Follow our online coverage throughout the rest of the semester on **nwmissourinews.com** and on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. We’re committed to keeping our readers informed.

Please reach out to Rachel Adamson at **r.adamson.missourian@gmail.com** if you have any questions about print and digital ad sales.

Thank you again for supporting student-run local journalism. We’re grateful for your readership.

CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Currency of Guinea

5. Avert something bad

10. Sounds

12. Immediate dangers

14. Legendary Tar Heels coach

16. Californium

18. Work standards government dept. (abbr.)

19. Coastal Scottish town

20. Triangular lower back bones

22. Trouble

23. A way to smile

25. Something that is not what it seems

26. Of she

27. Temporary living quarters

28. Bag-like structure in a plant or animal

30. Indicates near

31. Spiritual leader

33. Soup dish

35. Philippine island

37. No longer fashionable

38. Peaks

40. Alabama football team

41. ___ King Cole

42. Digital audiotape

44. Open trough

45. The woman

48. Cools down

50. Turkic language

52. Body part

53. Pulse steadily

55. Embedded computer hardware company

56. Indicates shape

57. Thou (plural)

58. Odd and remarkable

63. An evening party

65. National capital of Zambia

66. Tantalizes

67. Dark brown or black

- CLUES DOWN
1. Not naturally outgoing

2. Exclamation of pain

3. Polynesian garland of flowers

4. Surrounded by water

			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		
	10	11						12					13	
	14						15						16	17
18						19				20		21		
22					23				24		25			
26					27				28		29		30	
			31	32					33		34			
35	36								37					
38					39				40					
41				42		43		44				45	46	47
48			49		50		51					52		
53				54		55						56		
57				58		59				60	61	62		
	63	64							65					
		66							67					

5. Church towers

6. Hot beverage

7. Body parts

8. Travel documents

9. Railway

10. Gradually wear away

11. Measuring instrument

13. Minor dust-ups

15. Strongly alkaline solution

17. Extreme scarcity of food

18. Dash

21. Philly culinary specialty

23. Popular lager ___ Adams

24. Snitch

29. Trimmed

32. Take to the limit
34. Cool!

35. Sound mental health

36. Native American group

39. Test for high schoolers

40. Rocky peak

43. Preferences

44. Bother

46. Call attention to (slang)

47. Snake-like fish

49. Bulgarian capital

51. Don’t know when yet

54. Italian Seaport

59. Brooklyn hoopster

60. Where to bathe

61. Equal, prefix

62. Beverage container

64. Denotes openness

Last Week’s Solutions

7	5	3	9	8	2	6	1	4
6	4	9	7	1	3	8	5	2
2	8	1	5	4	6	3	7	9
8	6	4	1	3	7	2	9	5
3	1	2	4	5	9	7	6	8
5	9	7	6	2	8	1	4	3
4	7	8	2	9	1	5	3	6
9	3	6	8	7	5	4	2	1
1	2	5	3	6	4	9	8	7

A	B	A	C	A		S	L	O	E		T	A	B	I	
B	A	S	E	L		P	E	R	T	A	I	N	E	D	
A	C	C	O	M	P	L	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	S	
S	H	I				H	A	S		Y	P	R	E	S	
				T	O	T			G	L	E	E			
		S	P	A	T				H	E	R	D	E	D	
A	T	A	R				L	A	N	E		P	A	T	
D	A	N	E			M	A	T	T	E		D	E	B	S
P	M	T		B	E	N	D				Y	E	A	H	
	P	A	R	E	N	T			S	A	N	S			
			O	S	H	A		P	A	C					
	B	I	O	T	A		A	A	R			S	S	B	
C	O	N	F	I	D	E	N	T	I	A	L	I	T	Y	
I	N	T	E	R	E	S	T	S		M	I	N	A	E	
R	A	I	D		N	E	E			A	B	E	T	S	

Senior center remains open

Administration grapples with whether to close as COVID-19 spreads

ANDREW WEGLEY
Managing Editor | @andrewwegley

She’s closed the Nodaway County Senior Center before in her 13 years as an administrator at the lunchtime refuge for elderly people across the county, usually shutting its doors for a day or two when the weather turns bad and the roads ice over. Amie Firavich knows how her daily patrons will respond, and that’s why she’s hesitant to close now, in the wake of COVID-19 and the cloud it’s hung over the United States, one that’s cast a shadow touching every corner of daily American life.

The continued spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus, which first appeared in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, has caused a few of the senior center’s regular diners to stay home each day around noon, but not as many as Firavich would like.

“Does it concern me? Yes,” Firavich said, sitting behind her cluttered desk at the center on First Street March 16, as she balanced the increased difficulty of her job in the wake of a pandemic with the needs of the 35 senior citizens gathered at tables just outside her office door. “I work with the most vulnerable crowd but also the most stubborn crowd.”

Firavich is well aware of the statistics plastered on the nightly news and the warnings heeded from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. She knows 2.3% of COVID-19 cases were deadly throughout the worst of the virus’s run through China, but that the fatality rate was 14.8% in people 80 or older and 8% among people 70-79 years old, according to China’s CDC. She knows what kind of effect the virus could have on the center’s frequenters, most of whom are in their 70s and 80s, she said, if or when the outbreak reaches Nodaway County.

And perhaps worst of all, Firavich knows what will happen if she shuts down the senior center in the midst of the pandemic. Some of the seniors might stay home, she said, but the rest would congregate elsewhere — McDonald’s or Kentucky Fried Chicken, she said — places more connected to the outside world and the health dangers amplified by the pandemic’s spread and the age of her average clientele.

“They’re not gonna stay home, so I might as well try to help them as much as I can,” Firavich said, so she has sent out public pleas for hand sanitizer amid a national shortage and has tried to convince her daily customers to opt for home delivery. She has made and answered dozens of phone calls, trying to track the growth of the pandemic while running an under-funded facility. She’s refused hugs from some regulars who have frequented the center as long as she’s worked there, doing her best to help a crop of aging citizens who seem mostly disinterested in helping themselves.

Lavelle Rickabaugh is one of the longest-tenured regulars at the Nodaway County Senior Center and is certainly the oldest. He’s been coming to the center almost every weekday for lunch for more than 13 years, a habit he picked up after the death of his wife. He said the virus outbreak is serious, though he said it may be overblown. He’s seen and lived through a lot over the last century. He turns 102 in April. He drove himself to lunch.

Rickabaugh seems popular at the senior center, sitting at a crowded table near the middle of the facility’s open-air cafeteria. He talks as much with his peers as his \$2,500 hearing aid will allow, but it doesn’t work like it did when he was 100, he said. He used to sit at a table closer to the center’s pool tables when he first started frequenting 13 years ago with a group of different friends.

“I think I’m the only one from that bunch left,” Rickabaugh said.

Across the white, plastic table from Rickabaugh sits Butch Saber. At 88, he’s a year older now than Rickabaugh was when he first started eating lunch at the center. He talked about the spread of COVID-19 with a sense of urgency and humor. He, like many of the other 35 seniors who stopped by the facility for their choice of turkey and noodles or chicken nuggets March 16, isn’t sure what to make of it.

The disease hasn’t reached Nodaway County yet, where many of the senior center’s frequenters have spent much of their lives. But its spread has been evident.

As of noon March 17, there were 190,535 worldwide cases of the coronavirus and more than 7,500 deaths, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, which has mapped the active spread of reported cases of COVID-19 using data from the CDC and the World Health Organization, among other national and international health agencies and media reports.

The U.S., as of March 17, had seen more than 5,500 confirmed cases of the disease coupled with more than 100 deaths, according to Johns Hopkins. Nearly all of the virus-related deaths in the U.S. — close to 85% — were in patients older than 60, according to the Washington Post.

March 16 brought with it the highest uptick in coronavirus-related deaths the country had seen in one day since the start of the outbreak, with 22 reported nationwide, according to The Post, as the seniors went about their daily routine in the Nodaway County Senior Center.

With nine confirmed cases in Missouri March 17 but none nearing his corner of the state, Saber had felt the effects of the coronavirus the same way most of Nodaway County has: only cosmetically, in grocery store check-out lines and in empty toilet paper aisles, not yet making contact with the actual disease.

Saber couldn’t find his favorite flavor of Cheerios at the grocery store over the weekend, he said, settling for one he wasn’t used to. He’s not sure what those stockpiling toilet paper in the county and across the country are going to do with it. And he’s not overly worried about the spreading disease, one that’s more likely to affect people of his age severely than that of any other age group. He doesn’t want to stay home for lunch, he said, and have to eat only meals he can cook on his George Foreman Grill.

“As long as they don’t close the doors here,” Saber said, “I’m fine.”

Across the room, at a table near the senior center’s handicap accessible door, Majorie Parker is grappling with the coronavirus in the same ways as Saber. She’s taken some precautions, she said — she won’t play cards at the center like some other patrons might — but she’s determined to go about her daily life unchanged for as long as the virus will allow it.

Parker has spent all of her 92 years living in the northwest corner of Missouri. She lived in a house in Ravenwood for several decades before briefly moving to a nursing home with her husband in the late 2000s. They stayed only a few months before moving into a duplex, where she’s stayed alone after her husband’s death nearly a decade ago.

Parker doesn’t like the sound of a self-quarantine. She just got her license renewed in January on her birthday, the renewal good until 2023. She wants to keep using it, to keep making her daily trips to the grocery store and to the cemetery where her husband is buried and to the senior center, where she said she’s not sure how someone like her could self-quarantine.

“What do you do when you run out of groceries?” Parker said. “What about if you don’t have your medicine? We have to be out.”

Even after the CDC recommended organizers cancel gatherings of more than 50 people and President Donald Trump advised the public to avoid groups of more than 10 March 16, Parker remains unconvinced, or at least, unmoved. She still attends church in Ravenwood every Sunday, after first watching sermons from Joel Olsteen and David Jeremiah on TV, along with more than 100 other members of the church’s congregation. She said she has no plans to stop.

“You’d bet I go as long as they don’t close,” Parker said.

Elsewhere in the facility, patrons surmised their own theories. Willard Dowden, 60, said the virus was probably a cause for concern, but that he was “sick and tired of hearing about it.” In his 60 years in the region, Dowden said, he has lived through microbursts and ice storms. The media, he said, has overblown the scope of the coronavirus. He is ready for life to go back to normal. He doesn’t want to wind up in quarantine. He wants to play pool.

“There’s no other place to play,” Dowden said.

Back at Rickabaugh’s table, as the 101-year-old put on his jacket and prepared to drive home, 75-year-old Rolland Hayden said he wasn’t worried about the virus — not because it’s overblown, but because of his immune system. He’s been consuming 30-80 drops of food-grade hydrogen peroxide in his sparkling water everyday for years, something he said has helped him fight off viruses with ease. Hayden said he couldn’t remember the last time he’d gotten a cold before recalling the cold he fought off last fall, one he got over in a day and a half, he said.

Rickabaugh finished his chocolate milk, grabbed his walker and started making rounds to other tables, socializing with other patrons before heading to his car. He stopped by Firavich’s office and to say bye, to say he’d be back tomorrow, as the administrator grappled with the decision to keep the facility’s doors open.

Firavich has dedicated the last 13 years to the senior citizens of Nodaway County. She didn’t want to turn them away, but she couldn’t stand the thought of taking part in the spread of the virus to one of her patrons. She said she would close the center if and when the virus reached the county, while 35 seniors gathered for lunch on the other side of her office door.

“One thing about it when you push the panic button,” Saber said, before leaving his tray at the table and making his way toward the door. “You either blow it too quick or too late. So I hope it works — whatever they do.”

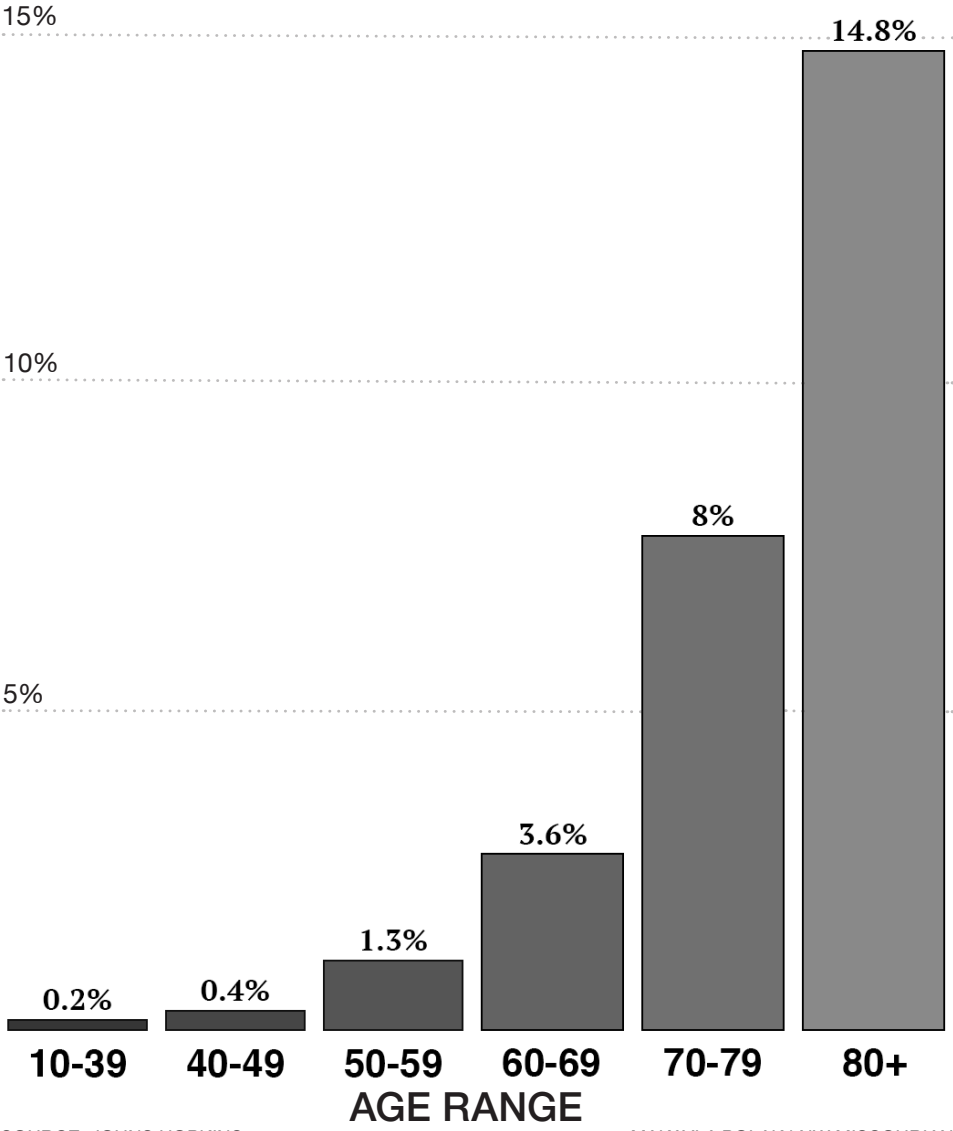


ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN
Majorie Parker, 92, said she will continue going to church every Sunday in Ravenwood as long as it doesn’t close, she said, despite the CDC’s warning to avoid gatherings of more than 50 people.



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN
At 101 years old, Lavelle Rickabaugh is the oldest regular at the Nodaway County Senior Center, driving himself to the facility on First Street most weekdays for lunch for the past 13 years.

COVID-19 FATALITY RATE



SOURCE: JOHNS HOPKINS

MAKAYLA POLAK | NW MISSOURIAN



HAILEY HOWARD | NW MISSOURIAN
Robert Arndt holds office hours Monday, March 16 in Garret Strong. In-person classes were canceled for the week, but professors reported to campus as normal.

ONLINE ONLY

Instructors prep for semester-long switch

SAMANTHA COLLISON
Campus News Editor | @SammieCollison

Northwest faculty will tailor on-line instruction to their students and course materials with no in-person classes being held for the rest of the semester amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

University Provost Jamie Hooyman met with faculty and sat in on academic department meetings March 16 and said she was impressed by the resourcefulness and creativity of Northwest faculty.

“Faculty have been wonderful about being creative and thinking through things like what were the academic requirements prior to this, and they may have to change a little bit. ... Ultimately, they’re taking a student-first look at it,” Hooyman

said on the phone.

For classes with more traditional instruction methods, faculty are primarily deciding whether they will host classes synchronously or asynchronously and which platform to use.

Synchronous classes will take place live on platforms like Zoom or Google Hangouts with students able to interact with instruction as it happens.

Asynchronous classes make course materials like recorded lectures and notes available at any time for students to work with independently on their own schedules.

Online lab courses are being considered for science labs, and Hooyman said teaching methods are being reevaluated to still reach the same learning outcomes in dif-

ferent ways for fine arts classes or courses driven by technology that cannot be accessed remotely.

Hooyman said Northwest is fortunate to already have all faculty and students using Canvas, which provides a unifying structure for online learning.

Hooyman said she doesn’t know when a decision will be made as to whether or when in-person classes will resume.

“We know that taking classes online changes the learning,” Hooyman said on the phone. “Safety of faculty, students and staff is the first thing we look at. But then also, we don’t want to jump too soon, because we know that bringing students back on campus would be a better learning experience for them.”

Vocal music professor Brian Lannier said he could not comment at this time as to how ensemble classes will be handled online or whether all spring performances will be canceled.

When reached for comment, Fine and Performing Arts Department Chair Katy Strickland, Dean of the School of Education Tim Wall and geography professor Mark Corson deferred to Hooyman for information about online classes.

“What I really want to communicate to students is I don’t want them to panic,” Hooyman said. “It is kind of scary times, but we’re going to work this out together.”

THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat needs food, not paper

Two words: Toilet paper.

Now I know what you’re thinking: “Yes I know, there’s no toilet paper anywhere.” We should have all indeed listened to Chuck from “Supernatural” in Season 5, Episode 4, when he said, “You hoard toilet paper. You understand me? Hoard it. Hoard it like it’s made of gold. ’Cause it is.”

But that isn’t my point. The point is, from walking through Walmart Inc. or Hy-Vee, or anywhere else, that yes, there will be no toilet paper, or cleaning supplies, or hand soaps or hand sanitizers, but there are still shelves full of food ripe for the pickings.

There’s still ice cream. There’s still chocolate. There’s still those lunchables and frozen dinners and pizzas. There’s still an aisle of canned soups, snacks and candy.

I don’t know about you all, but I’m pretty excited about that.

Let these other people cry about the end of the world as we know it and hoard their toilet paper — I mean what else are they going to eat, right? They’re probably drinking their hand soap too. But those of us who have an appetite for some real food, those are still up for grabs.

I’m talkin’ ramen noodles. I’m talkin’ mac ’n cheese and hot dogs, and maybe if you wanna get a little fancy with it, you can get some of that Chef Boyardee. Maybe a glass of sparkling grape juice.

I say there’s no better time to treat yo’ self than now.

Think of the possibilities. If you go to the store right now, I bet you could get yourself a four-course meal, and if you’re lucky, maybe a lunchable or two.

It sounds better than eating toilet paper, doesn’t it?

Just make sure to wash your hands before you eat. If you don’t have any soap, just use melted cheese. That should work.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian. Submit a Stroller to northwestmissourian@gmail.com

Service trip continues through outbreak

SARA ROBKE
A&E Reporter | @TheMissourian

Northwest faculty will tailor online instruction to their students and course materials with no in-person classes being held for the rest of the semester amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

University Provost Jamie Hooyman met with faculty and sat in on academic department meetings March 16 and said she was impressed by the resourcefulness and creativity of Northwest faculty.

“Faculty have been wonderful about being creative and thinking through things like what were the academic requirements prior to this, and they may have to change a little bit. ... Ultimately, they’re taking a

student-first look at it,” Hooyman said on the phone.

For classes with more traditional instruction methods, faculty are primarily deciding whether they will host classes synchronously or asynchronously and which platform to use.

Synchronous classes will take place live on platforms like Zoom or Google Hangouts with students able to interact with instruction as it happens.

Asynchronous classes make course materials like recorded lectures and notes available at any time for students to work with independently on their own schedules.

Online lab courses are being considered for science labs, and Hooyman said teaching methods

are being reevaluated to still reach the same learning outcomes in different ways for fine arts classes or courses driven by technology that cannot be accessed remotely.

Hooyman said Northwest is fortunate to already have all faculty and students using Canvas, which provides a unifying structure for online learning.

Hooyman said she doesn’t know when a decision will be made as to whether or when in-person classes will resume.

“We know that taking classes online changes the learning,” Hooyman said on the phone. “Safety of faculty, students and staff is the first thing we look at. But then also, we don’t want to jump too soon, because we know that bringing stu-

dents back on campus would be a better learning experience for them.”

Vocal music professor Brian Lannier said he could not comment at this time as to how ensemble classes will be handled online or whether all spring performances will be canceled.

When reached for comment, Fine and Performing Arts Department Chair Katy Strickland, Dean of the School of Education Tim Wall and geography professor Mark Corson deferred to Hooyman for information about online classes.

“What I really want to communicate to students is I don’t want them to panic,” Hooyman said. “It is kind of scary times, but we’re going to work this out together.”

An advertisement for the Tower Yearbook. It features a black and white photo of a person looking through a camera viewfinder. The word "RELIVE" is written in large, bold, white letters across the center. Above it, "NORTHWEST STUDENT MEDIA" is written in smaller white letters. Below "RELIVE", "TOWER YEARBOOK" is written in white.

An advertisement for Pitzenberger Body Shop. It features a black and white photo of a silver car. The text "Pitzenberger Body Shop" is at the top. Below it, the phone number "660.582.4599" is displayed in large white digits. At the bottom, the address "2711 South Mulberry" and the slogan "When quality counts!" are shown.

An advertisement for Dr. Dallas Fitzgerald. It features a black and white photo of a person wearing glasses. The text "Visit Dr. Dallas Fitzgerald at the" is at the top. Below it, "Walmart Vision Center" and "15 years at this location!" are shown. At the bottom, the address "1605 S. Main St. Maryville, MO 660.562.0215" and "Eye-health exams as low as \$65 . Contact lens fitting of all major brands. Many insurance plans accepted." are displayed.

An advertisement for Maryville Glass & Lock. It features a black and white photo of a padlock. The text "MARYVILLE GLASS & LOCK" is at the top. Below it, "The First Glass Place to Call" is shown. At the bottom, the address "114 W. 5th Maryville, MO" and the phone number "Phone: 660.582.3131 Mobile: 660.582.9030" are displayed.

An advertisement for Delbert's Garage. It features a black and white photo of a cartoon character holding a wrench. The text "DELBERT'S GARAGE" is at the top. Below it, "714 N DEPOT • MARYVILLE, MO" and the phone number "(660)562-0025" are shown. At the bottom, the slogan "Old Fashioned, Honest Service" and a list of services are displayed.



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN
Ryan Milke, Northwest’s assistant athletic director for marketing and promotions, tears down an NCAA-branded sign March 16 after the NCAA Division II Central Region Tournament scheduled for March 14-17 at Bearcat Arena was canceled.

CANCELED
CONTINUED FROM A12

After spending much of the last five years planning his days around basketball, Dougherty took the tournament’s cancellation with perspective. He said he owed a lot to the sport he’s played since his childhood. He said the cancellation was disappointing, but that there are “worse things that can happen.” After dedicating much of his life to the sport, he’s ready for life beyond it, he said.

“To go through these five years with Kirk and four years with Welty has been awesome,” Dougherty said. “I mean, literally, you couldn’t have better guys to go through it with. They’re some of my best friends in my life, and basketball has given me that. I’m just thankful for that.”

“‘Thankful’ is the one word I can come to over how I feel,” Dougherty said.

Hours after his team’s 31-win season was cut short, McCollum wore his usual Bearcat-clad athletic attire into Carson’s coupled with

a look of despondency. Usually a self-described high-strung source of energy, McCollum was somber in his tone. After spending much of the season telling reporters weekly that he is always looking forward, the coach found himself in a rare state of reflection.

McCollum said he wished the NCAA would have postponed the tournament March 11, instead of first closing it to the public. He said he was disappointed more for his senior class, who “established a program that a lot of people want to play for,” than he was for himself. He said he understood why the Association made the decision to cancel the postseason.

And McCollum said Northwest’s season wasn’t diminished due to the tournament’s cancellation. The Bearcats wanted a chance to defend their title, he said. They wanted a chance to compete. They yielded only to a pandemic, not the constant blows thrown at them from the strength of their conference schedule.

“It probably hasn’t sunk in yet,” McCollum said. “It’s kind of a sur-

real experience to where something like that’s canceled. It hasn’t sunk in, in regards to how the season ended, to be honest.”

Their season ended March 8 in Kansas City, Missouri, without the Bearcats knowing it. They beat Missouri Southern 78-76 for the MIAA Tournament Championship before cutting down nets at Municipal Auditorium for the fifth year in a row. They celebrated the victory before preparing for a tournament that wouldn’t happen. They accepted a tournament championship trophy from MIAA Commissioner Mike Racy, one that now serves as a relic of the pandemic’s ability to halt a nation, a reminder of what could have been.

McCollum doesn’t like to think about what could have been, though his 11-year tenure at Northwest has given him ample reason to. There was the injury to Dillon Starzl in 2014 that helped end Northwest’s season in the Central Region Tournament Championship against Central Missouri, the eventual National Champions. There was Justin Pitts’ broken foot in 2018 that sidelined

the star point guard as Northwest lost in the tournament’s first round. And now there is COVID-19 and the country’s reaction to it, leaving the Bearcats as passengers in the end of their own title defense.

As he climbed the yellow ladder beneath the south basket at Municipal Auditorium March 8, in front of a record number of fans in attendance, McCollum didn’t know it would be the last time he’d cut down a championship net this season. He couldn’t have.

The conference tournament provided a fine environment to end the season in, McCollum said, though he wishes things were different. He said he would have celebrated the tournament title with more energy, that he would have gotten more excited. He might have climbed the ladder a little slower. He might have enjoyed the view from atop it a little longer.

“We knew we had more games left,” McCollum said.

But they didn’t. They ended their season with a championship victory. It was not the one they’d hoped for.

usbank.com

Visit us today
for all your financial needs

Maryville Branches
120 S. Main St. & 1621 S. Main St.
Maryville, MO 64468

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER Member FDIC. 160054C 9/16

EXTRA
EXTRA

STAY UP TO DATE ON EVERYTHING HAPPENING ON
CAMPUS AND IN THE COMMUNITY

nwmissourinews.com

Northwest Equipment Rental, AUTO & TIRE Services

More than just
Equipment Rental

Visit us for
AUTO REPAIR & TIRE SERVICE!
Including AG tires

For your CAR:

- OIL CHANGE
- TIRE CHANGE
- GENERAL REPAIR

For BIG projects:

- MINI EXCAVATOR
- MAN LIFTS

AND MORE!

1515 E. South Ave.
660-853-1003

Registered Student
Organization Training

Monday, April 6th, &
Monday, April 20th
5pm - 6pm in the Union Boardroom

Mandatory for all student organization
Presidents, Treasurers, and Advisors

Organized by Office of Student Involvement

@NWLeadGreen



Senior jumper Audrey Wichmann is one of six Northwest track and field seniors who traveled to Birmingham, Alabama, March 13-14 for the NCAA Division II National Championships before the meet was canceled

Track has season end amid COVID-19 concern

NATHAN ENGLISH
Sports Reporter | @ThananEnglish

Northwest indoor track and field was supposed to end its season on a track 787 miles away from Maryville. The Bearcats did that, but not the way they intended.

The Bearcats were getting a workout in prior to the NCAA Division II National Championships March 13-14 in Birmingham, Alabama, when an email gave them the news that the championships, and the Bearcats' season, were canceled due to COVID-19.

"We were just in the middle of a cooldown, and when we stepped off the track, one of the girls was like, 'They canceled it,'" senior Tyrell Maddox said. "There was just a moment of disbelief."

The NCAA officially canceled all winter and spring sports championships for the spring semester, meaning that the outdoor track season will have no national championship. The MIAA has also canceled competition for the rest of the season, effective March 17.

The men didn't want their trip to be a complete waste, so they decided to race each other on the track after hearing the sobering news. These races helped the team come together after the shock of the news had worn off.

"We were like, 'Yo, we didn't come here for nothing.' So we stepped on the track and started racing 200s," Maddox said.



Coach Brandon Masters thought that something may happen in terms of limiting fans or changing how the meet was run, but he was hoping that since all attendees had made the trip to Birmingham, Northwest would get the opportunity to compete.

Masters' immediate reaction to the abolishment of the meet was surprise, which later turned to frustration that seniors like Maddox would probably never get to step on a track and compete for Northwest again. Six seniors from Northwest had qualified for nationals.

The Bearcat women, who relied heavily on seniors Hiba Mahgoub, Jordan Hammond and Audrey Wichmann, were ranked fifth by USTFCCCA prior to the national meet and were eyeing a podium spot as a team.

"They had an opportunity to do something no Northwest team has ever done," Masters said. "Not having the opportunity to coach them again is a sad, sad thing for me."

Masters characterized the 2019-20 Northwest indoor track and field team as one of the best in school history and said that the unknown of what the team could have accomplished is tough to process.

The question of how to respond to this cancellation was one that stumped both athletes and coaches. The news caused Masters to transition into more of a mentor than a coach to address the situation, and he said he wanted to put into perspective how important not being able

to compete for a national title was.

"You kinda have to look at reality and know that in the grand scheme of things that this is a big deal, but being healthy is a bigger deal," Masters said.

Masters wants the athletes to stay in shape and emailed them March 15 with workout routines.

"My mindset, my message is that we have to get ready for MIAA Championships in seven weeks, plain and simple," Masters said March 16.

The MIAA officially canceled all spring and winter sports March 17, effectively ending all hopes of another meet for Northwest track and field for the remainder of the season.

The uncertainty also boils over into next season as the question of eligibility will be one that could greatly change the makeup of the next Northwest track and field team. The team has a pretty set scholarship situation but could see some things changing if seniors get the opportunity and decide to renew their eligibility for next season, Masters said.

The NCAA has made no definitive ruling on restoring eligibility to Division II athletes at this time, and the track program will need clarity before deciding how to proceed, Masters said.

The season didn't end how they expected or how they wanted. The Bearcats will move forward the same as many other sports programs in the wake of the coronavirus, with unanswered questions and an uncertain future.

We'll be OK with no sports for now

JON WALKER
Sports Editor
@ByJonWalker



I want to start off by saying that I get it. I get that you're frustrated, upset, whatever it might be — understandably so.

You were supposed to watch Northwest men's basketball cut down a third net March 17 in Bearcat Arena after winning its third regional championship in four years. Along with that, possibly a fourth net once the Bearcats won their third national championship in four years April 5 in Atlanta, Georgia.

You were supposed to watch the athletes that belong to spring sports, specifically the seniors, have a moment of closure to end their collegiate career. Thankfully for those athletes, it seems as if the NCAA is exploring options to reinstate a year of eligibility.

For winter sports athletes, it doesn't appear to be as promising.

Now, you'll have to watch nothing because of COVID-19 canceling the postseason of winter sports, along with the MIAA announcing March 17 that it's putting a halt to the remainder of the season for spring sports.

But I promise that's OK. There's a lot of skepticism going on regarding the spread of the coronavirus. I've heard the pessimistic comments reverberating off of the empty toilet paper shelves at Maryville's Walmart. I've seen jokes on Twitter, Facebook and other forms of social media. This virus, obviously one that's not yet thoroughly known, isn't one to take lightly.

To Northwest men's basketball coach Ben McCollum's knowledge March 10, the virus was somewhat similar to the common flu. Less than 48 hours later, it was announced that Maryville wouldn't be hosting the Division II Central Region Tournament, where his team was competing for the chance to be regional champions for the third time in four years, as NCAA President Mark Emmert cut the second semester of collegiate athletics short March 12.

But it's better to be forced in the house wondering about what could've been as opposed to being forced in the house because you're quarantined.

This extends further than the athletes themselves. The sooner that people realize that, the better off everyone will be. As I said, I get it that you're mad you can't watch McCollum add another trophy to his collection, but the chance of getting someone seriously ill in the process isn't worth it.

It could've been the players. It could've been a player's grandparents. It could've been you. All of whom are people that were at risk of being exposed to the virus should the NCAA have sat on its hands and continued to move forward with sporting events. If anything, we should all take a step back and cultivate an appreciation for the drastic measures schools, cities and the organization went to so that they played their parts in reducing the spread of the virus.

This is unlike anything that any of us have ever seen. Yes, I'm even talking to the person that thinks they have a solution based on something they've seen on social media. It's OK to be without sports for a little bit, as much as that hurts to think about.

In the end, it's the right choice and probably the best one at this point in time.

So, in other words, you'll be alright. We all will be, I think. March Madness is synonymous with this time of the year, but we didn't think it'd be this mad. With that being said, it's a good thing that we're without sports for a little bit — perhaps it won't get any madder.

Maryville track faces hurdles of virus

CORBIN SMITH
Sports Reporter | @curly_corbs

The new COVID-19 outbreak has altered the sports world to become nothing but chaos and rather nonexistent. Amid all of the uncertainty, Maryville track and field coach Rodney Bade is not letting it change his plan for this season.

"We're allowed to have practice, so we're going to continue practice," Bade said. "I'm not worried about getting a high jumper to get their steps perfect by the end of the week because I don't know when our first meet is going to be."

Maryville's first meet was canceled due to the coronavirus outbreak, and Bade is on alert to hear if cancellations will continue. He said the team will have to keep training and working on fundamentals until competition is confirmed to start.

Bade is entering his first year at the helm of the Spoofhound track



and field program but isn't a new face to Maryville High School. He has been the cross country coach for the last five seasons and assistant track coach for the last three years.

Specializing in distance events, Bade has coached seniors who ran cross country all four years and said he would hate to see this season taken from them.

"It'd be a shame. It'd be heart-breaking," Bade said. "I've got a couple seniors who have put a lot of stock in this season. If things get canceled, my heart is going to break for them."

With the cancellation of all NCAA spring championships and, more recently, MSHSAA state basketball championships, the high school spring season is in jeopardy. However, Bade quickly prioritized public health over the need to race.

Facing an unorthodox start to the season, the 'Hounds look to returning veterans to push through adversity.

On the boys side, Maryville returns five athletes who competed at the 2019 Class 3 State Championships. Senior Carson Pistole earned all-state honors with an eighth-place finish in the long jump. Junior Garrett Dumke also earned all-state honors with a sixth-place finish in the 3,200-meter run and a fourth-place finish as part of the 4-x-800 meter relay along with seniors Zachary Kizer and Brandon Auffert.

"We've won our conference meet three years in a row," Bade said. "To win that fourth in a row would be huge. That would be a nice cherry on top."

For the girls, no athletes qualified to compete at the state meet. This year, Bade is optimistic about the number of girls he can use in each event. He is looking towards a diverse team in order to score points where they're needed.

"On the girls side, our numbers are pretty good," Bade said. "I

don't have any huge expectations for them other than to stay happy and healthy. If that's the case, they will run well and compete well."

A high school track and field season is a short, three-month period that allows little room for time off. If MSHSAA follows the same protocols it has been with the other activities it governs, Bade's first season as head coach could be even shorter than scheduled.

On March 16, MSHSAA released a statement saying that no spring sports championships will be canceled. MSHSAA will be in constant communication with state and local officials regarding the scheduling of championships. So as long as Maryville is still in session as a district, it is up to the school to determine if the 'Hounds continue to practice and compete.

Until then, Bade and his Spoofhounds will keep running and "hope everything calms down," he said.



Congrats

**to the Northwest Missouri
State University
Men’s Basketball Team
on their MIAA
Championship win!**

**Show your team spirit
with the
Bearcat Mascot Card!**



- **FREE Debit Card**
 - **FREE Mobile Banking**
 - **FREE Mobile Deposit**
- **FREE Online Banking**
 - **FREE Bill Pay**

Download our Mobi-CBT app to -

- ✓

Check your Balance
- ✓

Make Transfers on-the-go!
- ✓

Deposit Checks



Citizens Bank & Trust is a proud sponsor of the
MIAA Basketball Championships!

Canceled.



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest men's basketball coach Ben McCollum looks up at the score board in Northwest's 78-76 win over Missouri Southern March 8 at Municipal Auditorium. The Bearcats were scheduled to host the NCAA Division II Central Region Tournament March 14-17 before the NCAA canceled all championship tournaments to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 halts title hopes for men's basketball

ANDREW WEGLEY
Managing Editor | @andrewwegley

The poorly-lit table seating at Carson's Sports Grill was an unusual place for a basketball season to end. But that's where it ended for Northwest men's basketball March 12, less than a week after its fifth straight MIAA Tournament Championship victory that was supposed to propel the team into the NCAA Division II Central Region Tournament March 14-17 at Bearcat Arena.

The Arena, furnished with NCAA-branded decor in preparation for the tournament, is where the Bearcats were gathered when the news first broke. They were



practicing when Northwest officials told coach Ben McCollum about NCAA President Mark Emmert's statement declaring the cancellation of all championship tournaments due to growing concern over the spread of COVID-19, practicing in preparation for a game they wouldn't get to play.

It was close to 20 hours after the NBA suspended its regular season after a player tested positive for COVID-19. It was after the MLS, NHL and MLB followed suit, putting indefinite delays on the continuation of most major sporting events across the country. It was 3:16 p.m. March 12 when Emmert's announcement brought an end to Northwest's pre-tournament prac-

tice and an end to the team's unfinished season, leaving McCollum in a fleeting moment of ambivalence, unsure of how to counsel the players in front of him.

"I really didn't know what to say," McCollum said, reflecting on the moment he learned his team's season was over. "And so I just said, 'We'll meet in an hour once I collect my thoughts and figure out what to say.' I'm usually not at a loss for words."

And so the players stopped practicing. McCollum gathered his thoughts. Senior forward Tyler Dougherty, who's career had just ended less than 48 hours before his last tournament was set to begin, went for a drive. He had played his last game without knowing it March 8 at Municipal Auditorium. He didn't know what to think, he said.

"I tried to collect my thoughts, but it's hard to," Dougherty said, before comparing the news to the January death of NBA star Kobe Bryant. "It's such a thing that's not supposed to happen."

"It'll settle in over the next couple of weeks," Dougherty said. "But it just sucks."

After an hour, the team recon-

vened. McCollum made sure his players understood what kind of program they're a part of, he said. He thanked the team's seniors — Dougherty, Kirk Finley, who sat out the entire regular season with an Achilles injury, and Ryan Welty — for helping build the program into what it is today, he said. He eulogized a season that was not supposed to end.

"They gave everything to the program," sophomore guard Trevor Hudgins said of the team's seniors, who won 131 games over a four-year stretch, the most in Division II history. "I'm happy for those guys. I just wish we could give them a little better ending to this fairytale."

Instead, as the MIAA suspended the spring athletic competitions and the other teams traveling to the Central Region Tournament canceled hotel reservations, the fairytale ended just off Main Street in Maryville's downtown square, where players took the back door in and out of Carson's.

The Bearcats gathered at the restaurant, the site of the weekly Bearcat Coaches Show, around 6 p.m. — 48 hours before their tournament run was set to begin. They

ate and talked and interacted among themselves and with Northwest Athletics officials. Some of them — Finley, sophomore guard Diego Bernard and junior guard Daric Laing — wore NCAA National Championship hats from a season ago. They'd intended on replacing them next month in Atlanta, Georgia. They will not get the chance.

"I thought we were gonna do something special," Hudgins said. "It just ended really short. Life isn't fair, so we'll get over it, eventually. But it kind of sucks."

The informal event seemed designed to celebrate a successful campaign. Instead, it served as the season's wake, as the players mourned the premature pause in a historic run, one that won't resume until November. For Welty and Dougherty and Finley, it won't resume at all.

Toward the end of what Northwest Athletic Director Andy Peterson called "one of the darkest days in NCAA history," Dougherty emerged as a positive voice from the senior class robbed of its final tournament by the rapidly-spreading coronavirus.